

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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P 132150Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5633

INFO ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO (POUCH)

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MFM MX XM

SUBJ: GOM OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON TNE WORKING GROUP PAPER

REF: STATE 3078

1. EMB ECON OFF CALLED JAN 13 ON LIC. JOSE SANCHEZ GAVITO, FONOFF OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF TNE WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES. EMBOFF PRESENTED TEXT OF SUBSTANTIVE PAPER ON POLITICAL PRINCIPLES TRANSMITTED REFTEL, AND SANCHEZ GAVITO, AFTER LOOKING IT OVER, OBSERVED THAT IT SEEMED TO BE A REHASH OF PREVIOUS STATEMENTS.

2. THE GOM OFFICIAL NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN WORKING VERY HARD FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS ON THE QUESTION OF RULES FOR TNE'S AND FELT THAT DC AND LDC COUNTRIES ARE NOW FARTHER APART THAN EVER, AND WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE UNABLE TO AGREE ON A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TNE'S BY MARCH MFM DEADLINE. A PRINCIPLE ISSUE WAS QUESTION OF NATIONALIZATION, WHICH HAD PROVED IMPOSSIBLE OF SOLUTION IN CERDS TALKS, BUT THERE ARE OTHER TROUBLE SPOTS AS WELL, ACCORDING TO SANCHEZ GAVITO.

3. WORKING GROUP'S PROBLEMS IN WASHINGTON NOW EXACERBATED

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BY THE CONFLICT OVER "DISCRIMINATORY" PROVISION IN NEW U.S.

TRADE LAW, AND SANCHEZ GAVITO WONDERED ALOUD WHETHER VENEZUELA WAS EVEN ATTENDING TNE WG MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK. GOM OFFICIAL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT FONSEC RABASA-SECRETARY KISSINGER MEETING JAN 14 MIGHT HELP ON THAT PROBLEM. SANCHEZ GAVITO MADE POINT IN THIS REGARD THAT SECRETARY RABASA COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO ACT AS "MEDIATOR", BUT IN FACT CONSIDERS HIMSELF SPOKESMAN FOR AGGRIEVED LA COUNTRIES.

4. BEST HOPE FOR SOME SUCCESS AT TNE WG MEETINGS, ACCORDING TO SANCHEZ GAVITO, IS FOR USDEL TO ANNOUNCE THAT, IT BEING IMPOSSIBLE TO ADOPT A COMPREHENSIVE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TNE'S IN REMAINING WEEKS BEFORE MFM, EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO DRAFT PARTIAL CODE TO PRESENT TO FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE EASIEST SUBJECTS SHOULD BE CHOSEN FIRST, AND AGREEMENT REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ONE POSSIBLE AREA IS CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TNE WITH REGARD TO RESPECT FOR LETTER AND SPIRIT OF HOST COUNTRY'S LABOR LAWS, AND ENCOURAGING TNE'S TO HIRE AND TRAIN LOCAL PERSONNEL. OTHER ISSUES ON WHICH THERE IS BROAD AREA OF AGREEMENT MIGHT WELL BE DEVELOPED, THE MEXICAN OFFICIAL BELIEVES.

5. EVEN WITH NEW INITIATIVES AS OUTLINED ABOVE, HOWEVER, SANCHEZ GAVITO BELIEVES THAT CHANCES ARE VERY SLIM FOR REAL TNE WG PROGRESS IN ATMOSPHERE STRAINED BY NEW TRADE LAW.

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